## COUNTY COUNCIL

OF

## HARFORD COUNTY, MARYLAND

BILL NO. \_\_\_94-72

Introduced by \_\_\_\_Council Member Pierno Date August 9, 1994 Legislative Day No. \_\_\_94-22 AN ACT to add new Section 123-43.7, Tax Credit for Added Value of Restored Historic Landmarks, to Article II, Real Property Tax Credits, of Chapter 123, Finance and Taxation, of the Harford County Code, as amended; to establish a tax credit for the added value created when a historic landmark is restored, under certain conditions; to establish the number of years for which the tax credit is available; to establish certain requirements in connection with the tax credit; and generally relating to a tax credit for historic landmarks. By the Council, August 9, 1994 Introduced, read first time, ordered posted and public hearing scheduled on: <u>September 15, 1994</u> By Order: James & Vannay, Acting Secretary PUBLIC HEARING

Having been posted and notice of time and place of hearing and title of

Bill having been published according to the Charter, a public hearing was held on <u>September 15, 1994</u>, and concluded on, <u>September 15, 1994</u>

**EXPLANATION:** 

CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW. [Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law. <u>Underlining</u> indicates language added to Bill by amendment. Language lined through indicates matter stricken out of Bill by amendment.

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fames D. Varmou , Acting Secretary

- 1 WHEREAS, House Bill 1300, enacted by the 1994 General
- 2 Assembly, authorizes Maryland counties to give property tax credits
- 3 to landowners who restore historic structures on their property;
- 4 and
- 5 WHEREAS, It is in the general public interest to foster and
- 6 encourage historic preservation activities through improvement,
- 7 restoration, and rehabilitation of historic property; and
- 8 WHEREAS, These activities serve to preserve and protect the
- 9 architectural heritage of the county as represented by its
- remaining historic buildings and structures; and
- 11 WHEREAS, These activities also stimulate the positive aspects
- 12 of historic preservation, such as economic development and
- employment opportunities, and help to implement county planning
- 14 activities aimed at preserving historic structures, sites, and
- 15 districts.
- 16 NOW, THEREFORE,
- 17 Section 1. Be It Enacted By The County Council of Harford
- 18 County, Maryland, That new Section 123-43.7, Tax Credit for Added
- 19 Value of Restored Historic Landmarks, be, and it is hereby, added
- to Article II, Real Property Tax Credits, of Chapter 123, Finance
- 21 and Taxation, of the Harford County Code, as amended, to read as
- 22 follows:
- 23 Chapter 123. Finance and Taxation.
- 24 Article II. Real Property Tax Credits.
- 25 SECTION 123-43.7. TAX CREDIT FOR ADDED VALUE OF RESTORED HISTORIC
- 26 LANDMARKS.

- A. IN THIS SECTION, "ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS" MEANS
- 2 RESTORATION OR REHABILITATION OF A STRUCTURE DESIGNATED AS A
- 3 HARFORD COUNTY HISTORIC LANDMARK BY THE COUNTY'S HISTORIC
- 4 PRESERVATION COMMISSION.
- 5 B. AN OWNER OF A HISTORIC LANDMARK MAY APPLY TO THE
- 6 DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY FOR A TAX CREDIT FOR ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS.
- 7 C. TO QUALIFY FOR THE TAX CREDIT, THE OWNER SHALL:
- 8 (1) OBTAIN CERTIFICATION FROM THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION
- 9 COMMISSION, PRIOR TO MAKING THE IMPROVEMENTS, THAT THE IMPROVEMENTS
- ARE COMPATIBLE WITH THE HISTORIC LANDMARK AND WITH COUNTY HISTORIC
- 11 PRESERVATION STANDARDS; AND
- 12 (2) PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY THE NECESSARY
- 13 INFORMATION TO DEMONSTRATE THAT THE OWNER IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE TAX
- 14 CREDIT.
- D. THE AMOUNT OF THE TAX CREDIT IS EQUAL TO THE DIFFERENCE
- 16 BETWEEN THE PROPERTY TAX THAT, BUT FOR THE TAX CREDIT, WOULD BE
- 17 PAYABLE AFTER THE COMPLETION OF THE ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS, AND THE
- PROPERTY TAX THAT WOULD BE PAYABLE IF THE ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS
- 19 WERE NOT MADE.
- 20 E. THE OWNER MAY RECEIVE THE TAX CREDIT FOR UP TO 5 YEARS,
- 21 PROVIDED THAT THE OWNER APPLIES FOR THE CREDIT ON OR BEFORE
- DECEMBER 31 OF THE YEAR BEFORE THE TAX YEAR FOR WHICH THE CREDIT
- 23 IS REQUESTED.
- F. THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY AND THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION
- 25 COMMISSION MAY ESTABLISH PROCEDURES TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF
- 26 THIS SECTION.

Section 2. And Be It Further Enacted, That this Act shall apply 1 to all tax years beginning after June 30, 1995. 2 And Be It Further Enacted, That notwithstanding the 3 annual December 31 deadline for applying for the tax credit 4 established by this Act, in order to allow property owners to 5 qualify for the tax credit for the tax year which begins on July 6 1, 1995, the Department of Treasury is authorized hereby to accept 7 applications for the tax credit for that tax year after December 8 31, 1994, and until a later date established by the Department. 9 And Be It Further Enacted, That this Act shall take 10 Section 4. effect 60 calendar days from the date it becomes law. 11 12 13 EFFECTIVE: December 6, 1994 14 The Secretary of the Council does hereby

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certify that fifteen (15) copies of this Bill are immediately available for distribution to the public and the press.

Acting Secretary

HARFORD COUNTY BILL NO. 94-72
(Brief Title) <u>Historic Landmarks - Tax Credit for</u>
Added Value
is herewith submitted to the County Council of Harford County for enrollment as being the text as finally passed.
Acting Secretary of the Council
Date October 4, 1994 Date October 4, 1994
Read the third time.  Passed: LSD 94-26 (October 4, 1994)
Failed of Passage:
By Order
Acting Secretary
Sealed with the County Seal and presented to the County Executive for approval this $5  \text{th}$ day of $0  \text{ctober}$ , $199  \frac{4}{}$ at $3  :  00$ $p \cdot \text{m}$ .
James D. Vannou Acting Secretary
Edun M. Rehmann
COUNTY EXECUTIVE  APPROVED: Date (utuer 7,1994)
BY THE COUNCIL
This Bill (No. 94-72), having been approved by the Executive and returned to the Council, becomes law on October 7, 1994.
Acting Secretary

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 6, 1994

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